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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DILINH P


ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2814

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 09/677,558	Applicant(s) JEUN ET AL. 	
	Examiner DiLinh Nguyen	Art Unit 2814	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

Art Unit: 2814

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, 4 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mehr (U.S. Pat. 5530295).

Mehr discloses a semiconductor package (fig. 1, column 2, lines 30 et seq.) comprising:

a lead frame 18 having a first portion at a first level, a second portion connected to the first portion at a second level, and a plurality of terminals connected to the second portion;

a power circuit 12 mounted on a first surface of the first portion;

a heat sink 22 comprising an anodized aluminum (noted that the anodized aluminum is consisting of  $Al_2O_3$ ) (see references: Acocella et al. [U.S. Pat. 5031029], column 1, lines 24-27 and Yin et al. [U.S. Pat. 6471822], column 13, lines 64-67) having an electrically insulating property and thermal conductivity (column 2, lines 45-48), wherein the heat sink directly contacts a second surface opposite the first surface of the first portion of the lead frame; and

a sealer 16 having an electrically insulating property and thermal conductivity, wherein the sealer covers the power circuit (fig. 1).

Art Unit: 2814

- Regarding claim 2, Mehr discloses that the first portion of the lead frame is centrally positioned within the lead frame (see fig. 1).
- Regarding claim 4, Mehr discloses that the first surface of the first portion is a top surface and wherein the second surface of the first portion is a bottom surface (see fig. 1).
- Regarding claim 10, Mehr discloses that the heat sink and the sealer each have grooves and wherein the heat sink and the sealer are connected to each other by means of the grooves (fig. 1).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 5 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mehr (U.S. Pat. 5530295) (previously applied) in view of Majumdar et al. (U.S. Pat. 5703399) (previously applied).

- Regarding claims 3 and 5, Mehr substantially discloses all the limitations as claimed above except for the package comprising a power semiconductor element and a control circuit that drives the power circuit.

However, Majumdar et al. disclose that a lead frame 3 having a first portion at a first level, a second portion surrounding the first portion at a second level, and a plurality of terminals 15 and 17 connected to the second portion;

Art Unit: 2814

a power circuit 9 includes a power semiconductor element 4a; and

a control circuit 8 that drives the power circuit (fig. 9, column 7, lines 10-25).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Mehr by having a power semiconductor element and a control circuit that drives the power circuit, as taught by Majumdar et al., such the power element and control circuit would enhance the noise resistance and control the operation of the power circuit (column 7, lines 10-12).

- Regarding claim 11, Majumdar et al. disclose that the heat sink 1 is sheet-shaped (fig. 9).

5. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mehr (U.S. Pat. 5530295) (previously applied) in view of McCarthy et al. (U.S. Pat. 3956726) (previously applied).

Mehr substantially discloses all the limitations as claimed above except the module further comprising a heat detection circuit.

However, McCarthy et al. disclose a device comprising a heat detection circuit (column 1, lines 39-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Mehr by having a heat detection circuit, as taught by McCarthy et al., such the heat detection circuit would detect the heat produced by the semiconductor element for the package device (column 1, lines 39-42).

Art Unit: 2814

6. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mehr (U.S. Pat. 5530295) (previously applied) in view of Tomita et al. (U.S. Pat. 5440169) (previously applied).

Mehr substantially discloses all the limitations as claimed above except the heat sink is adhered to at least one of the lead frame and the sealer with an adhesive.

However, Tomita et al. disclose a heat sink 30 is adhered to at least one of the lead frame and a sealer 6 with an adhesive of a plurality of dimples 25 (fig. 8, column 5, lines 35-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Mehr by having the heat sink is adhered to the lead frame and the sealer with an adhesive, as taught by Tomita et al., in order to improve the molding characteristics for the semiconductor package (column 5, lines 60 et seq.).

7. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mehr (U.S. Pat. 5530295) in view of Tomita et al. (U.S. Pat. 5440169) (previously applied) and further in view of Majumdar et al. (U.S. Pat. 5703399) (previously applied).

As discussed in details above, the combination of Mehr and Tomita et al. substantially disclose all the limitations as claimed above except the adhesive contains a filler that includes at least one compound selected from the group consisting of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{AlN}$  and  $\text{BeO}$ .

However, Majumdar et al. disclose a highly heat conducting resin 2, wherein the adhesive contains a filler that includes at least one compound selected from the group consisting of  $\text{AlN}$  (column 8, lines 22-34). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one

Art Unit: 2814

having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to select AIN for the filler in the adhesive of the above combination because as taught by Majumdar et al., such the filler in the adhesive would provide a highly heat conducting resin with an excellent electric insulating property and thermal conductivity (column 8, lines 25-34).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DiLinh Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1712. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM - 6:00PM (M-F).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wael Fahmy can be reached on (571) 272-1705. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DLN



HOAI PHAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER